

MONTHLY AWARD WINNERS

Weapons Safety

Award of Distinction

The 1st Fighter Wing conducted a combined Phase I and II Self Initiated Operational Readiness Exercise (SIOR) from 19-26 Feb 04. TSgt Jarvis participated as a Wing Exercise Evaluation Team (WEET) member and had constant oversight of the exercise play area. During the 3-day Phase II, he performed constant surveillance of continuous explosive operations among three participating fighter squadrons simulating over 100 air-to-air missile expenditures daily. On four different occasions, TSgt Jarvis observed the placement of MJU-7 flare/RR-180 chaff modules in empty aircraft parking spots within 12-24 inches of the vehicle driving lane. On every occasion he immediately notified the nearest weapons load crew and expeditor to have the chaff and flare

modules moved to the nearest F-15 and placed under the nose of the aircraft as dictated by Wing policy. TSgt Jarvis also contacted the appropriate flight line supervisors and directed that they investigate the procedural errors and take corrective actions to prevent recurrence. His rapid and effective intervention prevented a possible mishap by eliminating the key factors that resulted in three mishaps between FY01 and FY03 caused by a fuel truck filled with JP-8 jet fuel running over a loaded flare module. While none of the flares ignited in the previous incidents, the potential damage caused by 15 MJU-7 flares burning at 5,000 degrees Fahrenheit could have caused severe injuries to the driver and flight line personnel along with destruction of the fuel truck and damage to nearby F-15 aircraft. TSgt Jarvis' initiative, quick actions, and attention to detail eliminated several potentially catastrophic situations while preserving invaluable lives and scarce USAF resources.



TSgt Jay L. Jarvis, 1st Fighter Wing, Langley AFB, Virginia

Unit Safety

Award of Distinction

The 32 CCS managed to safely navigate through multiple rocket/mortar/small arms attacks at a deployed base in Iraq, a squadron field training exercise, and a group-wide evaluated exercise — all with zero mishaps. During the Operation IRAQI FREEDOM deployment, 32 CCS personnel helped the deployed base commander in Iraq establish rigorous command and control procedures in the event of hostile enemy activity. These Command and Control (C2) measures proved invaluable to the base commander when the base experienced numerous mortar, rocket, and small arms attacks, many in very close proximity to 32 CCS troops. During these mortar and rocket attacks, and at all other times, members of the 32 CCS were very careful to adhere to all safety and Force Protection precautions. Their C2 during these attacks was commendable. They immediately accounted for personnel while ensuring 100 percent worldwide base comm connectivity to continue the AF mission in Iraq. In addition, the unit planned and executed a week-long field training exercise encompassing the deployment and activation of two AN/TRC-170 Microwave Radio Terminals. Highly professional junior enlisted troops directed the inventory and mobilization of 14 tons of tactical communications equipment and support items. This total package was comprised of 5 vehicles, 4

towed loads, and 15 personnel. The team checked each convoy vehicle to ensure 100 percent safety compliance, proper attachment of towed loads, and safe securing of cargo. To double-check safety procedures they also had all items verified by the squadron Quality Assurance office before the convoy rolled out. Once at the training site, the team confirmed the safe and complete arrival of the entire team at the group Operations Center and conducted another safety briefing that included safe setup procedures, proper lifting techniques, and personal protective equipment. They also deployed required hazardous material containment barriers around the power production equipment to contain any possible fuel spills, established safe clear zones for the radiation hazard area, and devised nighttime security plans to protect personnel and equipment. After 104 hours of operation there were no equipment or personnel safety incidents. This event was even more spectacular since all personnel involved were E-4 or below, showing that safety is drilled and adhered to by the most junior troops in the squadron. Finally, the unit dedicated 4 personnel as semi-truck drivers who assisted in the preparation and transport of over 35 tons of base operating support equipment for 95 personnel during an evaluated group exercise. Two days prior to the exercise, they maximized use of spotters and safety observers while loading the equipment with a 5-ton forklift, onto separate 40 ft flatbed trailers. Logging in over 640 miles the first 2 days without incident, they put in another nearly 800 miles on the back end hauling equipment and vehicles to and from the exercise area. Personnel were "Out in Front" while completing over 1,200 miles to deliver required supplies, and proved good planning and attention to detail provide the proper keys to safety.

32nd Combat Communications Sqdn., 3rd Combat Communications Group, Tinker AFB, Oklahoma

Crew Chief Safety

Award of Distinction

While working swing shift in the Phase Dock, SSgt Pyle was assigned to conduct a power-on check on an F-15C with another worker. SSgt Pyle was working on the ground while the other worker was in the cockpit, activating the systems that needed to be checked while SSgt Pyle verified that they worked correctly. After a thorough review of the procedures and checklists, they began run-

ning through the operational checks required to finish the check. Part of the procedure required them to lower and raise the tail hook to verify correct operation. The tail hook on an F-15 weighs over 60 pounds. When unlocks are released by the pilot, it lowers to full extension under gravity power in less than 1 second. Just prior to lowering the tail hook, SSgt Pyle noticed that another Airman had wandered underneath the jet and was directly in the path of the tail hook. SSgt Pyle quickly ran and pulled the other Airman to safety. His attentiveness and quick thinking prevented a serious injury and are a great example to his coworkers.



SSgt William C. Pyle, 1st Equipment Maint. Sqdn., 1st Fighter Wing, Langley AFB, Virginia

ACC Safety Salutes Superior Performance

Lt Col Vincent Quinn,
Capt Shelly Mendieta,
335 FS, 4 FW
Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

TSgt Denis McMonagle,
NCOIC, Quality Assurance
32 CCS, 3 CCG
Tinker AFB, Okla.

Lt Col Robert Schwarze,
Commander,
68 EWS, 53 WG
Eglin AFB, Fla.

Major Larry Hunter,
Capt William Betts,
F-16CG Pilots
524 FS, 27 FW
Cannon AFB, N.M.

Mr. Duane E. Chilton,
Weather Forecaster
2 OSS, 2 BW
Barksdale AFB, La.

Capt Langdon Root,
F-16 Pilot
421 FS, 388 FW
Hill AFB, Utah

SSgt Jason Crocker,
Dedicated Crew Chief
A1C Joseph Katzur,
A1C Kyle Johnson,
A1C Christopher Fenton,
F-15E Avionics Specialists
4 AMS, 4 FW
Seymour Johnson AFB, N.C.

SSgt Charles Anderson,
Assistant NCOIC Traffic Section
1 SFS, 1 FW
Langley AFB, Va.

